

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An isolated cDNA or recombinant nucleic acid, comprising a nucleic acid encoding a DRG11 protein, wherein said DRG11 protein has a sequence which is at least 70% 90% identical to the DRG11 protein sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 wherein said DRG11 protein has a homeodomain region which is at least 95% identical to the homeodomain region comprising amino acid residues 30 through 90 of SEQ ID NO:2, and wherein said DRG11 protein is characterized by its natural expression in sensory neurons and dorsal horn neurons of the spinal cord and non-expression in non-neuronal cells, sympathetic neurons and ventricular neurons of the spinal cord.
2. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence depicted in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:2) of SEQ ID NO: 2.
3. (cancelled)
4. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 comprising [[the]] a nucleic acid depicted in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:1) having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
5. (previously amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 operably linked to an expression vector comprising transcriptional and translational regulatory DNA.
6. (original) A host cell transformed with an expression vector according to claim 5.

7. (previously added) A method of producing a DRG11 protein comprising:
- a) culturing a host cell transformed with an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 1; and
 - b) expressing said nucleic acid to produce a DRG11 protein.